

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully solicited.

Claims 24, 27, 58, 59, 64, 66, 67, 71, 72, 73, and 75 are pending, with Claims 24, 27, 64, 67, and 72 being independent. Claims 24, 27, 64, 67, and 72 have been amended.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended in granting and conducting, on October 19, 2007, a personal interview with Applicants' representative. At the interview, Applicants' representative and the Examiner discussed the outstanding rejections, which are respectfully traversed, as well as proposed amendments to the claims. The claims have been amended as discussed at the interview.

Claims 24, 27, 58, 59, 64, 66, 67, 71 through 73, and 75 yet again are variously rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over U.S. Patent Nos. 5,021,892 (Kita, et al.), 4,989,163 (Kawamata, et al.), 5,684,607 (Matsumoto), and 5,900,947 (Kenmochi, et al.). All rejections are respectfully traversed.

As discussed at the interview, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 24, 27, 64, 67, and 72 variously recite, *inter alia*, the read command and the print command are transmitted from the external computer in response to a copy key operation at the external computer conducted by the user, the copy key operation comprising selecting copying and instructing a start of copying (without requiring any additional key operation at the external computer other than the copy key operation)

However, as discussed at the interview, Applicants respectfully submit that none of Kita, et al., Kawamata, et al., Matsumoto, and Kenmochi, et al., even in the proposed combinations, assuming, *arguendo*, that the documents could be combined, discloses or suggests

at least the above-discussed claimed features as recited, *inter alia*, in Claims 24, 27, 64, 67, and 72. As discussed at the interview, Applicants respectfully submit that Matsumoto is silent as to any key operation, let alone the claimed key operation that effects transmission of both the read command and the print command.

It is further respectfully submitted that there has been no showing of any indication of motivation in the cited documents that would lead one having ordinary skill in the art to arrive at the above-discussed claimed features.

The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional aspects of the present invention and are dependent from independent claims discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

/Daniel S. Glueck/
Attorney for Applicants
Daniel S. Glueck
Registration No. 37,838

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200
DSG/mcm

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